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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR : REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

EURIDIKI THEOCHARIDES, R.N. License No. 26N007331300

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Euridiki Theocharides ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), licensees are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses.
- 3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), licensees are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing

education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

- 4. On or about April 16, 2010, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial license renewal for the period of June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2012, and Respondent's license was then renewed by the Board through May 31, 2012.
- 5. Respondent asked on the biennial renewal was Respondent would have "completed application whether required continuing education credits by May 31, referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. Respondent answered "No" to the question.
- 6. On or about September 23, 2010, the Board sent a letter to Respondent requesting an explanation as to why Respondent did not complete the required continuing education.
- 7. On or about October 14, 2010, Respondent sent a letter to the Board explaining that she did not complete the continuing education requirement due to health reasons.
- 8. On or about March 31, 2011, the Board sent a letter to Respondent, advising that she had not fulfilled the continuing education requirement for the 2010 license renewal and that she was required to submit, within 7-10 business days, proof of completion of 30 hours of continuing education.

- 9. On or about December 8, 2011, the Board sent a third letter to Respondent requesting that she provide within thirty (30) days, either proof of successful completion of 30 hours of continuing education credits or submission of her active license.
- 10. To date, Respondent has not complied with the Board's continuing education requirement.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, completion of the required 30 hours of continuing education for the two year period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), which subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and 45:1-21(h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline ("POD") was entered by this Board March 30, 2012, which provisionally suspended on Respondent's license to practice nursing. Copies of the POD were sent to Respondent's address of record in Colts Neck, New Jersey via certified and regular mail. The Provisional Order of Discipline clearly stated that it was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent failed to submit a response to the POD. Because the POD was forwarded to Respondent's address of record, and the regular mailing was not returned, although the certified mail receipt was signed by a third party and returned, the Board deems service to have been effected, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:45-3.2. Accordingly, it is determined that further proceedings are not necessary and that the Provisional Order should be made final.

THEREFORE, it is on this <u>20</u> day of <u>Qure</u>, 2012 ORDERED that:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice nursing be and hereby is suspended pending submission of proof of completion of thirty (30) hours of continuing education as required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(a).
- 2. Respondent shall refrain from practicing as a nurse and shall not represent herself as a Registered Professional Nurse until such time as her license is reinstated. Any

practice in this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for a charge of unlicensed practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Bv:

Patricia Murphy, PbD,

President